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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/992,138	11/16/2001	David A. Funck	6065-82969	4649

24628 7590 09/02/2005

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EXAMINER

LANIER, BENJAMIN E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2132

DATE MAILED: 09/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/992,138

Applicant(s)

FUNCK ET AL.

Examiner

Benjamin E. Lanier

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 November 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 1-9, 13-29, 32-39, 42-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonesh, U.S. Patent No. 6,046,762, in view of Schuster, U.S. Patent No. 6,857,072. Referring to claim 1, Sonesh discloses a call distribution system wherein a client places a call to an ACD agent and the caller's identity is determined from data included in the packet (Col. 7, lines 12-21), which meets the limitation of a customer data processor configured to handle two way communication between the customer and the agent of the ACD, the customer data processor configured to store and process customer data provided by the customer, the customer data processor configured to transmit the customer data to the ACD upon receiving a predetermined signal. Sonesh does not disclose that the client transmission is encrypted. Schuster discloses a system for enabling encryption and authentication in a PSTN network (Abstract),

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which meets the limitation of the telephonic communication device encrypting the customer data and transmitting the encrypted customer data to the ACD upon receiving a predetermined signal. The system also provides for decryption of the transmitted encrypted data (Col. 17, lines 56-67), which meets the limitation of a customer data interpreter operatively coupled to the ACD for receiving and decrypting the encrypted customer data to facilitate presentation of the customer data to the agent. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to encrypt the client transmissions of Sonesh in order to more safely transmit sensitive data across the network as taught by Schuster (Col. 3, lines 32-36).

Referring to claim 2, Sonesh discloses that the ACD transmits a signal to the client for customer data (Col. 7, lines 21-22).

Referring to claims 3, 4, Sonesh discloses that the customer identification is sent prior to two-way communications (Col. 7, lines 17-20), which also meets the limitation of automatically transmitted to the agent of the ACD prior to a voice communication between the customer and the agent.

Referring to claims 5, 6, Sonesh discloses that customer identification can be sent during two-way communications (Col. 7, lines 61-63), which would also meet the limitation of the customer data being sent to the ACD substantially simultaneously with the two-way communication.

Referring to claim 7, Sonesh discloses that customer identification can be sent after a voice communication (Col. 7, lines 64-65), which meets the limitation of customer data is automatically transmitted to the agent of the ACD after voice communication between the customer and the agent has terminated

Referring to claim 8, Sonesh disclose that the customer identification information is transmitted in the initial transmission (Col. 7, lines 17-20), which meets the limitation of the customer issues the predetermined signal to facilitate automatic transmission of the customer data to the ACD.

Referring to claim 9, Sonesh discloses that the identification information is the client's name (Col. 7, line 21).

Referring to claims 13-15, Sonesh discloses the network transmits data packets that contain voice information (Col. 7, lines 58-65), but does not specifically disclose that the network is a VOIP network. Schuster discloses that the data network in the encryption/authentication system is a VOIP network (Col. 5, lines 7-9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the data network of Sonesh to be a VOIP network because the data network of Sonesh is a data network that transmits voice packets which is VOIP network as described in Schuster (Col. 5, lines 5-9).

Referring to claim 16, Sonesh discloses the client is equipped with a computer and modem (Col. 7, lines 12-15).

Referring to claim 17, Sonesh discloses that the network access is possible through POTS lines (Col. 5, lines 19-21).

Referring to claims 18, Sonesh discloses that customer data can be entered using a telephone DTMF dial pad (Col. 7, lines 64-65), which meets the limitation of customer data processor transmits the customer data using a plurality of DTMF tones.

Referring to claims 19, 20, Sonesh discloses that the client telephone can be mobile (Col. 9, lines 19-24), which also meets the limitation of the customer data processor is contained within the mobile telephone.

Referring to claim 21, Sonesh does not disclose that the user device is a PDA, but Schuster discloses that the user device in the encryption/authentication system is a PDA (Col. 5, lines 59-61). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the client computer/telephone implementation of Sonesh (Figure 1) to be a PDA because the PDA as described in Schuster (Col. 5, lines 50-64) contains all the desired functionality of the desired implementation of Sonesh in one device instead of using several (Sonesh, Figure 1).

Referring to claim 22, Sonesh discloses a call distribution system wherein a client places a call to an ACD agent and the caller's identity is determined from data included in the packet (Col. 7, lines 12-21), which meets the limitation of a telephonic communication device configured to handle two way communication between the customer and the agent of the ACD, a customer data processing means for storing and processing customer data provided by the customer, the customer data processing means operatively coupled to the telephonic communication device. Sonesh does not disclose that the client transmission is encrypted. Schuster discloses a system for enabling encryption and authentication in a PSTN network (Abstract), which meets the limitation of the telephonic communication device encrypting the customer data and transmitting the encrypted customer data to the ACD upon receiving a predetermined signal. The system also provides for decryption of the transmitted encrypted data (Col. 17, lines 56-67), which meets the limitation of a customer data interpreter operatively

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coupled to the ACD for receiving and decrypting the encrypted customer data to facilitate presentation of the customer data to the agent. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to encrypt the client transmissions of Sonesh in order to more safely transmit sensitive data across the network as taught by Schuster (Col. 3, lines 32-36).

Referring to claim 23, Sonesh discloses a call distribution system wherein a client places a call to an ACD agent and the caller's identity is determined from data included in the packet (Col. 7, lines 12-21), which meets the limitation of a telephonic communication device adapted to handle two way communication between the customer and the agent of the ACD, a customer data processor operatively coupled to the telephonic communication device for storing and processing customer data provided by the customer, the telephonic communication device configured to transmit the customer data to the ACD upon receiving a predetermined signal. Sonesh does not disclose that the client transmission is encrypted. Schuster discloses a system for enabling encryption and authentication in a PSTN network (Abstract), which meets the limitation of a data encryption device operatively coupled to the customer data processor and configured to encrypt the customer data. The system also provides for decryption of the transmitted encrypted data (Col. 17, lines 56-67), which meets the limitation of a customer data interpreter operatively coupled to the ACD configured to receive and decrypt the encrypted customer data and present the customer data to the agent. Schuster discloses that the data network in the encryption/authentication system is a VOIP network (Col. 5, lines 7-9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to

encrypt the client transmissions of Sonesh in order to more safely transmit sensitive data across the network as taught by Schuster (Col. 3, lines 32-36).

Referring to claim 24, Sonesh discloses a call distribution system wherein a client places a call to an ACD agent and the caller's identity is determined from data included in the packet (Col. 7, lines 12-21), which meets the limitation of storing customer data provided by customer, in a customer data processor of the telephonic communication device, the customer data processor operatively coupled to the telephonic communication device, transmitting the customer data to the ACD upon receiving a predetermined signal. Sonesh does not disclose that the client transmission is encrypted. Schuster discloses a system for enabling encryption and authentication in a PSTN network (Abstract), which meets the limitation of encrypting the customer data. The system also provides for decryption of the transmitted encrypted data (Col. 17, lines 56-67), which meets the limitation of receiving and decrypting the customer data by a customer data interpreter, the customer data interpreter operatively coupled to the ACD, presenting the decrypted customer data to the agent of the ACD. Schuster discloses that the data network in the encryption/authentication system is a VOIP network (Col. 5, lines 7-9), which would meet the limitation of providing a VOIP communication device, the VOIP communication device adapted to handle communication between the customer and the agent of the ACD. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to encrypt the client transmissions of Sonesh in order to more safely transmit sensitive data across the network as taught by Schuster (Col. 3, lines 32-36).

Referring to claim 25, Sonesh discloses that the ACD transmits a signal to the client for customer data (Col. 7, lines 21-22).

Referring to claim 26, Sonesh discloses that the customer identification is sent prior to two-way communications (Col. 7, lines 17-20).

Referring to claim 27, Sonesh disclose that the customer identification information is transmitted in the initial transmission (Col. 7, lines 17-20), which meets the limitation of the customer issues the predetermined signal to facilitate automatic transmission of the customer data to the ACD.

Referring to claim 28, Sonesh discloses that the identification information is the client's name (Col. 7, line 21).

Referring to claim 32, Sonesh discloses that the network access is possible through POTS lines (Col. 5, lines 19-21).

Referring to claims 33, Sonesh discloses that customer data can be entered using a telephone DTMF dial pad (Col. 7, lines 64-65), which meets the limitation of customer data processor transmits the customer data using a plurality of DTMF tones.

Referring to claim 34, Sonesh discloses that the client telephone can be mobile (Col. 9, lines 19-24).

Referring to claim 35, Sonesh does not disclose that the user device is a PDA, but Schuster discloses that the user device in the encryption/authentication system is a PDA (Col. 5, lines 59-61). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the client computer/telephone implementation of Sonesh (Figure 1) to be a PDA because the PDA as described in Schuster (Col. 5, lines 50-64) contains all the desired functionality of the desired implementation of Sonesh in one device instead of using several (Sonesh, Figure 1).

Referring to claim 36, Sonesh discloses a call distribution system wherein a client places a call to an ACD agent and the caller's identity is determined from data included in the packet (Col. 7, lines 12-21), which meets the limitation of a customer processing means configured to handle two-way communication between the customer and the agent of the ACD, the customer processing means configured to store and process customer data provided by the customer, the customer processing means configured to transmit the customer data to the ACD upon receiving a predetermined signal. Sonesh does not disclose that the client transmission is encrypted.

Schuster discloses a system for enabling encryption and authentication in a PSTN network (Abstract), which meets the limitation of means for encrypting the customer data, the means for encrypting operatively coupled to the customer processing means. The system also provides for decryption of the transmitted encrypted data (Col. 17, lines 56-67), which meets the limitation of a customer interpreter operatively coupled to the ACD for receiving and decrypting the encrypted customer data to facilitate presentation of the customer data to the agent. Schuster discloses that the data network in the encryption/authentication system is a VOIP network (Col. 5, lines 7-9), which would meet the limitation of providing a VOIP communication device, the VOIP communication device adapted to handle communication between the customer and the agent of the ACD. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to encrypt the client transmissions of Sonesh in order to more safely transmit sensitive data across the network as taught by Schuster (Col. 3, lines 32-36).

Referring to claim 37, Sonesh discloses that the ACD transmits a signal to the client for customer data (Col. 7, lines 21-22).

Referring to claim 38, Sonesh disclose that the customer identification information is transmitted in the initial transmission (Col. 7, lines 17-20).

Referring to claim 39, Sonesh discloses that the identification information is the client's name (Col. 7, line 21).

Referring to claims 42-44, Sonesh discloses the network transmits data packets that contain voice information (Col. 7, lines 58-65), but does not specifically disclose that the network is a VOIP network. Schuster discloses that the data network in the encryption/authentication system is a VOIP network (Col. 5, lines 7-9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for the data network of Sonesh to be a VOIP network because the data network of Sonesh is a data network that transmits voice packets which is VOIP network as described in Schuster (Col. 5, lines 5-9).

Referring to claim 45, Sonesh discloses that the client telephone can be mobile (Col. 9, lines 19-24).

Referring to claim 46, Sonesh discloses that the network access is possible through POTS lines (Col. 5, lines 19-21).

4. Claims 10-12, 30, 31, 40, 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonesh, U.S. Patent No. 6,046,762, in view of Schuster, U.S. Patent No. 6,857,072 as applied to claims 1, 24, 29, 36 above, and further in view of Creswell, U.S. Patent No. 6,823,318. Referring to claims 10-12, 30, 31, 40, 41, Sonesh discloses a call distribution system wherein a client places a call to an ACD agent and the caller's identity is determined from data included in the packet (Col. 7, lines 12-21). Sonesh does not disclose that the ACD agent identifier determines the transmitted caller identity information (Col. 7, lines 12-21). Creswell discloses a

secure purchasing system wherein a purchaser receives the identity of a vendor when attempting to purchase a specific item (Col. 3, lines 24-56). The purchaser information that is transmitted to the vendor server is determined by the security association with the purchaser and that vendor server (Col. 4, line 7 – Col. 5, line 20), which meets the limitation of a vendor identification code transmitted to the customer data processor, the vendor identification code identifying a specific vendor associated with the communication between the customer and the agent, the customer data processor assigns one of a plurality of security levels to the vendor identification code, all of the customer data is transmitted to the agent if the vendor identification code is assigned the first security level, a portion of the customer data is transmitted to the agent if the vendor identification code is assigned the second security level, and non of the customer data is transmitted to the agent if the vendor identification code is assigned the third security level. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to determine what client information in Sonesh, the client decided to transmit based on the specific agent in order to allow the client the ability to remain anonymous to a specific vendor as taught in Creswell (Col. 1, lines 45-48).

### ***Drawings***

5. New corrected drawings are required in this application because lines, letters, and numbers are not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable, and black. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

*Conclusion*

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin E. Lanier whose telephone number is 571-272-3805. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30am-5:00pm, F 7:30am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Benjamin E. Lanier